

# Dynamite in Arizona A Real Bang-Up Record

## Thoresens Have Met The Cops

Weapons and involvement with the law are no new experience to Louise and William Thoresen.

Mrs. Thoresen was arrested yesterday in their Pacific Heights mansion, charged only with a local ordinance prohibiting the storage of explosives and possession of an automatic weapon.

Thoresen still has not been arrested. He was not at home when federal agents made the raid.

But the Thoresens' involvement with big guns and explosives dates back several years.

### DYNAMITE

In December, 1964, Thoresen was arrested in Tucson, Ariz., and charged with setting off four dynamite charges near a radio station. At the time, he, his wife, and son, occupied a mansion leased from Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall.

A young University of Arizona honor student was charged as Thoresen's accomplice and testified 50 pounds of dynamite had been used "to liven up the evening of one of the radio station's night announcers."

The student, however, declined to testify against Thoresen and the dynamite charges were dropped.

In December, 1966, a porter at Kennedy International Airport in New York jostled four storage parcels and uncovered a gun muzzle. The packages were watched by police, who said Mrs. Thoresen eventually came to claim them.



MRS. LOUISE THORESEN

Not her first entanglement with law on gun charges.



WILLIAM THORESEN

Weapon enthusiast

### 1500 ROUNDS

In the packages, police said they found two riot guns, a pistol, portable flame thrower, spare parts for weapons, and 1500 bullets.

In a rented auto used by Mrs. Thoresen, police said they also found three riot guns, a flame thrower, pistol, shells for a bazooka, and several thousand rounds of ammunition.

Mrs. Thoresen posted \$12,500 bail on a charge of violating federal gun laws and the issue has not yet been resolved in court. A federal warrant for her husband's arrest is believed to stem from the Kennedy airport incident.

The husband's police record dates to 1959 with an arrest in posh Bar Harbor, Maine on a charge of grand larceny. On March 12, 1966, he was arrested here by police investigating what they

first believed to be the burglary of a North Beach gun store.

### BLACKJACK

According to the police report, Thoresen and two other men zoomed away from the store, which had not been burglarized, and when stopped, a blackjack and brass knuckles were found in the car.

The charge was later reduced to resisting arrest, for which Thoresen in absentia was fined \$56 and placed on one year probation.

Thoresen, whose physical appearance is marked by a long, thin face and long brown hair, describes himself as a writer. He weighs 170 pounds, has hazel eyes, and despite apparent wealth, is listed on local police records as "laborer."

The Thoresens, who maintain a mansion in New York in addition to the luxurious

Tucson home, arrived in San Francisco in mid-1966.

They purchased the Pacific Heights mansion, with its expanse of rolling lawn and curved, concrete front stairway approach for approximately \$200,000.

### SWIM POOL

The couple then announced they planned a complete re-vamping of the house including construction of an inside swimming pool. The estimate of the remodeling cost was \$300,000.

Neighbors said they had recently been disturbed by the coming and goings of moving vans during darkness but had no suspicions the mansion was an arsenal.

One chic matron told newsmen:

"Why I thought those people were just hicks from Illinois."